

REMARKS

The indication that claims 5 and 8 - 20 are allowed is acknowledged.

By the present amendment, claims 1 and 2, the only claims under rejection, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and claim 5 which has been objected to because of the informality noted by the Examiner, has been corrected in the manner suggested. Further, a new dependent claim 23, which depends from allowed claim 5 has been presented, and recites features as illustrated in Fig. 12 of the drawings of this application, for example.

With respect to claim 23, as noted above, such claim further defines the features of parent claim 5, which is allowed, and recites features as illustrated in Fig. 12 of the drawings of this application. Thus, this dependent claim which depends from an allowed claim should also be considered allowable at this time.

As to the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Kurashima, US Patent No. 6,825,891, as noted above, claims 1 and 2 have been canceled such that this rejection has been obviated. Accordingly, discussion of the cited art is considered unnecessary.

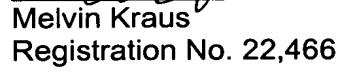
In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all claims present in this application, i.e., claims 5, 8 - 20 and 23 should now be in condition for allowance, and accordingly, issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,

Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.42842X00),  
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Melvin Kraus

Registration No. 22,466

MK/jla  
(703) 312-6600